

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Kenji NISHI, et al.**

Group Art Unit: **Unassigned**

Serial No.: **10/718,728**

Examiner: **Unassigned**

Filed: **November 24, 2003**

Confirmation No.:

For: **AN EXPOSED APPARATUS, EXPOSURE METHOD USING THE SAME, AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE OF CIRCUIT DEVICE**

Attorney Docket No.: **991185B**  
Customer Number: **38834**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

March 2, 2004

Sir:

Applicants direct the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of each listed document is attached.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, because it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. Applicants respectfully request that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

Response under 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Attorney Docket No. 991185B

Serial No. 10/718,728

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-2866 for any fee that is required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

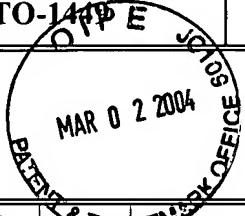
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Applicant(s): Kenji NISHI et al.		
	Filing Date: November 24, 2003	Group Art Unit: Unassigned



### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
	EP 0 766 144 A1	4/97	Europe	Yes – Abstract

### OTHER DOCUMENTS

		Supplementary European Search Report dated January 23, 2004 for the corresponding European Patent Application.
Examiner		Date Considered